

I Claim:

1. A suspension device, comprising:
a main member;
a support member extending from the main member and having a first interference
5 fit with a container;
a wall member extending from the support member and having a second
interference fit with the container;
wherein the first interference fit is capable of resisting relative movement of the
suspension device and the container in a first direction and the second interference fit is
10 capable of resisting relative movement of the suspension device and container in a second
direction transverse to the first direction; and
wherein the suspension device is capable of exerting a non-zero variable resistance
force on the container.
- 15 2. The suspension device of claim 1, wherein the main member includes at
least one mounting hole.
3. The suspension device of claim 2, wherein the mounting hole(s) is adapted
to accept fasteners.
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4. The suspension device of claim 1, wherein the support member is integral
with the main member.
5. The suspension device of claim 1, wherein the wall member is integral with
25 the support member.
6. The suspension device of claim 1, wherein the support member includes a
curved main portion and end portions.

7. The suspension device of claim 6, wherein a first opening is defined between the two end portions.

8. The suspension device of claim 7, wherein the width of the first opening is defined by the shortest distance between the end portions.

9. The suspension device of claim 6, wherein the end portions define a chord having a length.

10. The suspension device of claim 9, wherein the container is circular in shape and has a diameter and wherein the diameter of the container is greater than the length of the chord.

11. The suspension device of claim 1, wherein the wall member includes an inner periphery defining a second opening.

12. The suspension device of claim 1, in combination with a container.

13. The suspension device of claim 12, wherein a lid is disposed on the container.

14. The suspension device of claim 13, wherein the main member includes an inner periphery defining a third opening therein and wherein the lid is disposed adjacent the third opening.

15. The suspension device of claim 13, wherein the lid is disposed in a cavity formed by the main member, the support member, and the wall member.

16. The suspension device of claim 13, wherein the lid includes a tab.

17. The suspension device of claim 12, wherein the container includes a peripheral rim.

5 18. The suspension device of claim 17, wherein the peripheral rim interferes with the wall member to support the container.

19. The suspension device of claim 18, wherein the peripheral rim is disposed on the wall member.

10 20. The suspension device of claim 1, wherein the suspension device includes a plate member that is an extension of the main member.

21. The suspension device of claim 20, wherein the plate member includes double-sided adhesive tape on a top surface thereof for attachment to a surface.

22. A suspension device, comprising:

a main member;

first means extending from the main member and having a first interference fit;

second means extending from the first means and having a second interference fit;

5 wherein the first interference fit is capable of resisting relative movement of the suspension device and the container in a first direction and the second interference fit is capable of resisting relative movement of the suspension device and container in a second direction transverse to the first direction; and

10 third means for establishing a resistance force that increases during insertion and removal of the container from the suspension device.

23. The suspension device of claim 22, further comprising at least one mounting hole.

15 24. The suspension device of claim 22, further comprising a first and a second opening wherein the first opening has a width greater than a width of the second opening.

25. The suspension device of claim 22, further comprising a horseshoe shape.

26. A combination, comprising:

a suspension device including a main member, a support member extending from the main member, and a wall member extending from the support member, the support member and wall member defining a cavity bounded by first and second openings; and

5 a container, wherein the support member and wall member define interference fits with the container and wherein the container experiences a resistance force that increases during insertion and removal from the suspension device.

10 27. The combination of claim 26, wherein the main member includes at least one mounting hole.

28. The combination of claim 26, wherein a lid is disposed on the container.

15 29. The combination of claim 28, wherein the main member includes a third opening therein and wherein the lid is disposed adjacent the third opening.

30. The combination of claim 28, wherein the lid is disposed in the cavity formed by the main member and the support member and the wall member.

20 31. The combination of claim 28, wherein the lid includes a tab.

32. The combination of claim 26, wherein the container includes a peripheral rim.

25 33. The combination of claim 32, wherein the rim is disposed on the wall member.

34. The combination of claim 26, wherein the support member includes a curved main portion and end portions.

35. The combination of claim 34, wherein a first opening is defined between the two end portions.

5 36. The combination of claim 35, wherein the width of the first opening is defined by the shortest distance between the end portions.

37. The combination of claim 35, wherein the end portions define a chord having a length.

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38. The combination of claim 37, wherein the container is circular in shape and has a diameter and wherein the diameter of the container is greater than the length of the chord.

15 39. The combination of claim 26, wherein the suspension device includes a plate member that is an extension of the main member.

40. The combination of claim 39, wherein the plate member includes double-sided adhesive tape on a top surface thereof for attachment to a surface.

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41. A one-piece suspension device, comprising:

a main member;

support members extending from the main member and having a first interference fit;

5 wall members extending from the support members and having a second interference fit;

wherein the first interference fit is capable of resisting relative movement of an object contained therein in a first direction and the second interference fit is capable of resisting relative movement of the object contained therein in a second direction transverse to the first direction;

10 an opening defined by the main member, the support members, and the wall members; and

wherein the wall members defining the opening include interference members to retain the object contained therein.

15 42. The suspension device of claim 41, wherein the main member includes at least one mounting hole.

20 43. The suspension device of claim 42, wherein the mounting hole(s) is adapted to accept fasteners.

44. The suspension device of claim 42, wherein the object contained therein is a container.

25 45. The suspension device of claim 44, wherein a lid is disposed on the container.

46. The suspension device of claim 44, wherein a peripheral rim and the lid of the container are disposed in a cavity formed by the main member, the support members, and the wall members.

5 47. The suspension device of claim 46, wherein the peripheral rim interferes with the wall members to support the container.

48. The suspension device of claim 44, wherein the lid includes a tab.

10 49. The suspension device of claim 44, wherein the main member is square-shaped.

50. The suspension device of claim 41, wherein the suspension device includes a plate member that is an extension of the main member.

15 51. The suspension device of claim 50, wherein the plate member includes double-sided adhesive tape on a top surface thereof for attachment to a surface.

52. A suspension device, comprising:

a main member;

support members extending from the main member and having a first interference fit;

5 wall members extending from the support members and having a second interference fit;

wherein the first interference fit is capable of resisting relative movement of an object contained therein in a first direction and the second interference fit is capable of resisting relative movement of the object contained therein in a second direction transverse to the first direction;

10 wherein the main member, the support members, and the wall members are formed integrally;

an opening defined by the main member, the support members, and the wall members; and

15 wherein the wall members defining the opening include interference members to retain the object contained therein.

53. The suspension device of claim 52, wherein the main member includes at least one mounting hole.

20 54. The suspension device of claim 53, wherein the mounting hole(s) is adapted to accept fasteners.

25 55. The suspension device of claim 53, wherein the object contained therein is a container.

56. The suspension device of claim 55, wherein a lid is disposed on the container.

57. The suspension device of claim 56, wherein a peripheral rim and the lid of the container are disposed in a cavity formed by the main member, the support members, and the wall members.

5 58. The suspension device of claim 57, wherein the peripheral rim interferes with the wall members to support the container.

59. The suspension device of claim 56, wherein the lid includes a tab.

10 60. The suspension device of claim 52, wherein the main member is square-shaped.

61. The suspension device of claim 52, wherein the suspension device includes a plate member that is an extension of the main member.

15 62. The suspension device of claim 61, wherein the plate member includes double-sided adhesive tape on a top surface thereof for attachment to a surface.

63. A combination, comprising:

a suspension device including a main member, support members extending from the main member, and wall members extending from the support members, the support members and the wall members defining a cavity and wherein the main member, the support members, and the wall members are formed integrally; and

a container, wherein the support members and the wall members define interference fits with the container.

64. The combination of claim 63, wherein the main member includes at least one mounting hole.

65. The combination of claim 63, wherein a lid is disposed on the container.

66. The combination of claim 65, wherein the lid is disposed in the cavity formed by the main member, the support members and the wall members.

67. The combination of claim 65, wherein the lid includes a tab.

68. The combination of claim 63, wherein the container includes a peripheral rim.

69. The combination of claim 68, wherein the rim is disposed on the wall members.

70. The combination of claim 63, wherein the suspension device is square-shaped.

71. The combination of claim 63, wherein the suspension device includes a plate member that is an extension of the main member.

72. The combination of claim 71, wherein the plate member includes double-sided adhesive tape on a top surface thereof for attachment to a surface.

5 73. A method of suspending an object, the method comprising the steps of:
providing a suspension device;
attaching the suspension device to a surface; and
inserting an object into the suspension device to hang the object therefrom;
wherein the suspension device is capable of exerting a non-zero variable resistance
10 force on the object during insertion of the object.

74. The method of claim 73, wherein the object is a container.

15 75. The method of claim 73, wherein the suspension device is capable of
exerting a non-zero variable resistance force on the object during removal of the object.

76. The method of claim 73, wherein the attaching step includes the step of
securing the suspension device with at least one fastener.

20 77. The method of claim 73, wherein the attaching step includes the step of
securing the suspension device with double-sided adhesive tape.

78. A method of suspending a container, the method comprising the steps of:
providing a one-piece suspension device having a base member, at least one
support member extending from the base member, and at least one wall member extending
from the support member(s);

5 attaching the suspension device to a surface; and
 inserting a container into the suspension device.

79. The method of claim 78, wherein the inserting step includes the step of
lifting the container over interference members located on the support member(s).

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80. The method of claim 78, wherein the suspension device is capable of
exerting a non-zero variable resistance on the container during insertion of the container.

81. The method of claim 80, wherein the suspension device is capable of
exerting a non-zero variable resistance on the container during removal of the container.

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82. The method of claim 78, wherein the attaching step includes the step of
securing the suspension device with at least one fastener.

83. The method of claim 78, wherein the attaching step includes the step of
securing the suspension device with double-sided adhesive tape.

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